



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

SEPTEMBER 23, 2004
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JURY CONVICTS KC BROTHERS IN BANK ROBBERY ATTEMPT

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Kansas City, Mo., brothers were convicted by a federal jury today of attempted armed bank robbery and federal firearms violations.

James E. Bowman, 38, and **Jimmy J. Bowman**, 41, both of Kansas City, Mo., were found guilty of conspiracy, attempted armed bank robbery, use of a firearm during a crime of violence, and being felons in possession of a firearm at the conclusion of a trial that began Sept. 20, 2004.

Following the presentation of evidence, jurors deliberated less than an hour before returning guilty verdicts to U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning.

The **Bowmans**, along with co-defendant **Daniel D. Salazar**, 20, also of Kansas City, confronted an employee who routinely cleans the Bank of America building at 8550 Holmes in Kansas City, as he arrived for work at 5:40 a.m. on May 12, 2004. **Jimmy Bowman**, who was carrying a handgun, forced the employee to open the door as **James Bowman** and **Salazar**, also carrying handguns, approached. The robbers repeatedly ordered the employee to open the bank's vaults and teller drawers, Graves said, but he told them he did not have access to any of the bank's money. When the robbers realized the employee was not able to provide them with any money, they left the bank.

On Sept. 8, 2004, **Salazar** pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the attempted bank robbery.

Salazar contacted the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department on May 13, 2004, and offered to provide information about the attempted robbery of Bank of America that occurred the day before. Local television and newspaper media had advertised a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for that attempted robbery

and related unsolved bank robberies, Graves explained, and **Salazar** hoped to claim that reward by providing information about his co-conspirators.

In the course of their investigation, Graves said, law enforcement officers learned that **Salazar** was one of the three men who participated in the attempted bank robbery.

“We’re satisfied that three dangerous criminals will now be safely locked behind bars,” Graves said. “The **Bowman** brothers have extensive and violent criminal backgrounds. These convictions will insure that our community is protected from them for a long time to come.”

Under federal statutes, the **Bowmans** could each be subject to a sentence of up to 45 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$1 million. **Salazar** could be subject to a sentence of up to 30 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$500,000. Sentencing hearings will be scheduled after the completion of presentence investigations by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney K. Michael Warner. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow